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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 21, 2021.

I hereby appoint the Honorable NIKEMA WILLIAMS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

SLAVERY REMEMBRANCE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GREEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, and still I rise. I rise as a person who is proud to live in a country where we celebrate the ideal of liberty and justice for all; government of the people, by the people, for the people.

I rise today with grateful thoughts on my mind and in my heart. I rise with gratitude. I am thankful to those persons, the many, who have signed on to H. Res. 517.

H. Res. 517, Madam Speaker, is a resolution that would allow us to remember slavery, Slavery Remembrance Day.

Slavery Remembrance Day would be a day that we would set aside, not for celebration, but for commemoration, for memorialization, to remember the atrocities that were imposed upon people, human beings, how they were made chattel. Slavery Remembrance Day.

And for those who may not be aware, we have a 9/11 Remembrance Day. We have a Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. We have a Holocaust Remembrance Day. But we don't have a Slavery Remembrance Day.

Hence, on August 20 of this year, we will commemorate the first Slavery Remembrance Day, because it was on that day in 1619 that the White Lion landed in this country with some 20 persons who were held in captivity as slaves. Slavery Remembrance Day.

So I am rising today to thank the many persons who have already signed on to the resolution. And I want you to know that we will be sending you something very special, something comparable to this. It will have the resolution cited on one side of the page. Each of your names will be highlighted on the other side of the page. And each of you will have a special place for your name that will be highlighted.

This is historic, and we have to treat it as such. This is something that those who will look back on this time through the vista of time, they will look, and they will conclude that we did not forget, that we made it a point to remember that those who, unfortunately, don't learn the lessons of history sometimes repeat history.

We never want to repeat slavery. Hence, we will have a Slavery Remembrance Day resolution.

THE AMERICAN DREAM IS ALIVE AND WELL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. HARTZLER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, 2 miles down the road from this very Chamber, in 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. stood on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial and proclaimed his vision for the future:

"I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a Nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Nearly 60 years later, radical far-left Democrats are doing everything possible to eliminate this dream through the implementation of critical race theory.

Instead of equality, critical race theory frames race, not character, as the focal point of the human construct, implying that one's racial identity defines who they are and who they will ever be.

To these CRT believers, your fate has already been decided by your skin color.

To the average American living outside the swamp bubble, this idea is ludicrous.

Everyday Americans have seen individuals of all races and backgrounds succeed. They know hard work and character are the biggest determinants of success, and the American Dream is alive and well for everyone.

But critical race theory wants to poison our classrooms by pushing an agenda which revolves around race, not character. They want to teach young minds that racism persists even if no individual or institution acts in a racist way or holds any racist beliefs.

This toxic teaching squashes hope, stifles growth, and fuels anger and despair.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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